

Student Name: _____

Parent or Guardian: _____

Contact information: _____

Email: _____

Health care number (optional): _____

Health concerns or medical problems your coach should know about:

Permission to call ambulance in emergency: _____

Alternate contact: _____

Lessons are 1-hour groups of 3-4 riders or ½ hour privates of 45.00 each lesson at Willowbend. Payment is to be made at the beginning of each month by cash, cheque or e-transfer to Kaitlyn Kopchiak. Cancellations need to be made in advance or they will be charged for. Missed lessons must be made up within 30 days from the cancelled lesson or they will be forfeited, too many missed lessons and your spot will be refilled. If a client has their own horse or lease horse the missed lessons can be replaced with training rides by myself. Termination of lessons completely needs one month's notice; this gives time for the spot to be filled for the following month. Beginner lesson horses, helmets and tack are provided, if you are seeing this becoming a more long-term sport it is highly recommended that to purchase your own riding helmet, breeches (pants), and boots. I recommend visiting www.greenhawk.com they are located in Calgary they have lesson packages to purchase all of the above together, Lammles here in medicine hat also carry helmets and some additional riding attire, I also run a second hand tack store located at Willowbend that might be able to accommodate some of your needs.

Parents are welcome to stay and watch the lessons, please remember this is the students time to learn from their riding instructor and assistance from the sidelines can be distracting.

If there are any questions or concerns with the lesson program, please contact Kaitlyn Kopchiak. Lessons are arranged to benefit the students' needs and goals, if there are any special requirements you or your child need let your instructor know.

Parent/ guardian signature

Parent/guardian printed name

Date

Bio

As a kid I started riding as a hobby when my family moved to Victoria BC, this hobby soon turned into a passion for all things equine from stable care, to horse showing. Over the past 20+ years the passion has grown, and I have since increased my love for horses into a love for sharing horses with others. In 2004 I started teaching my first kids summer camps which lead into beginner riding lessons, from here I decided I needed to learn more. In 2008 I flew to Toronto to complete my Certified Horsemanship Instructor certification to better teach my students. From 2009-2011 I moved to Olds, AB to complete my Animal Health Technology diploma as I thought being around animals this much, I should probably have a medical background. After moving back to medicine hat with my new skills I progressed my teaching by completing my Equine Canada Instructor of beginners, this includes completing numerous coaching courses with NCCP, maintaining my First aid, criminal background checks and continued education to keep up my licensing. I am a person who is always looking to grow and find new ways to help my students and their horses. Every student I teach I take personally in hopes of helping them reach their goals and experience all the joy these beautiful animals can offer.

Goals are important as they help keep us on the same path. As an instructor I need to know if you are looking to become the next top barrel racer, show jumper or the best trail rider in the group. Don't panic! Goals change all the time so this won't be the only time this page gets passed around.

Name: _____ Age(optional): _____

Previous Short-Term Goal: _____

New Short Term Goal: (what would you like to learn in the next six months)

Long Term Goal: (Where do you see yourself in the next year or two)

What can you do to help yourself reach these goals: (you can talk to your parents and instructors about this)

www.albertaequestrian.com is a great resource site to look up any information you might need involving horses and lesson programs.

I am frequently asked about what comes next after starting lessons. Lessons can be carried on forever on the lesson horses provided there is no push to increase or advance if this is the level you wish to continue for yourself or your child. If you are wanting more out of your lessons it is recommended to look into leasing or owning. Most of us live in the city and owning a horse on our own land is not an option, that is why we have equestrian facilities. These facilities provide the care for a horse, an arena, feed, and supervision so we all don't have to buy an acreage to continue advancing our horse skills. Leasing is an option to get your feet wet, if you are looking for more than the lesson horses have to offer then this option lets you move onto more advanced horses without the commitment of owning, if you realise this is not what you want you can cancel the lease and walk away. Leasing is also the "gateway" to owning, it allows you to experience all the benefits so naturally the next step would be to buy your own horse. This is all things that should be discussed with your instructor as we can help find the right horse to suit your level.